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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. OEH-003

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT(S):	Staupendahl <i>et al.</i>	CONFIRMATION NO.:	7656
SERIAL NO.:	10/500,090	GROUP NO.:	1725
FILING DATE:	June 24, 2004	EXAMINER:	Heinrich, S. M.
TITLE:	Method for the Separation of Optical Fibers by Means of CO <sub>2</sub> Laser Radiation		

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

This Amendment and Response is responsive to the Office action mailed on September 13, 2005, for the above-identified patent application. Also enclosed is a petition and appropriate fee for a two-month extension of time for responding to the Office action up to and including February 13, 2006. Applicants believe that no additional fee is due for this Amendment and Response to be considered. However, please consider this a conditional petition for the proper extension, if one is required, and a conditional authorization to charge any related extension fees or other fees necessary for entry of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-1721.

Please amend without prejudice the above-identified patent application as follows.

- **Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.
- **Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.